also advised Canara Bank to conduct a special audit of the entire operations of the Mutual Fund. The reports submitted by SEBI on inspections of State Bank of India (SBI) Mutual Fund and Bank of India (BOI) Mutual Fund are being processed by the RBI. In view of the growing importance of Mutual Funds and the decision to allow Mutual Funds to be set up in the joint and private sectors, this Ministry has recently issued a comprehensive set of prudential guidelines for the development and regulation of Mutual Funds and for ensuring investor protection. All Mutual Funds shall require authorisation for business by the SEBI.

Centre's directive to States for stable pewer supply to rural areas

*86. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have issued any special directive to the States to give special attention for providing stable power supply to rural areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) Distribution of power is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments. Power supply to various consumers in the rural/urban areas is decided by the State authorities, keeping in view the demand and availability of power. States have, however, been advised by Central Government to take action to ensure availability of power supply to Agriculture sector for sufficiently long hours at a stretch and on an average more than 8 hours per day. Details of power supply to agricultural consumers in the various States during January, 1992 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Power Supply to Agricultural Sector during January, 1992

S. No.	State	Hours of supply (average/day)
1	Haryana	14
2	Punjab	16
3	Rajasthan	8
4	Uttar Pradesh	13
5	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu : No restriction. Kashmir : 10
6	Himachal Pradesh	No restriction
7	Gujarat	12—16
8	Madhya Pradesh	17
9	Maharashtra	No restriction
10	Andhra Pradesh	13 hrs. in groups.
11	Kerala	20
12	Karnataka	18 hrs in groups.
13	Tamil Nadu	14 hrs. in groups
14	Bihar	Depending on day-to day availability
15	Orissa	Peak period restriction.
16	West Bengal	No restriction except during peak period.